



Department of Health and Human Services  
Health and Environmental Testing Laboratory  
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### Detection of Orthopoxvirus *Laboratory Submission Information Sheet*

Reporting of suspect case to Maine CDC	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Yes: Orthopoxvirus (Variola major virus (Smallpox virus), Variola minor virus (Alastrim)) is a Notifiable Condition. If you have not already done so, please report suspect or confirmed cases to the Maine CDC via the disease reporting line: 1-800-821-5821 (24hrs/day 7 days/week.)</li></ul>
Required To Submit Laboratory Specimen	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Yes. Orthopoxvirus (Variola major virus (Smallpox virus), Variola minor virus (Alastrim)) are select agents.</li></ul>
Required Information	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Information on requisition must include: suspected organism, patient name, DOB, date of collection, specimen source or type, submitter name and contact information.</li><li>• <b>Important: all specimens must be labeled with patient name and be accompanied by a HETL requisition.</b></li></ul>
Specimen Requirements	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Dried vesicle fluid on a slide, fresh biopsy, skin or crust from roof of vesicle, swab of lesion (dry or wet), fresh biopsy of pustule or vesicle (no formalin)</li></ul>
Collection Instructions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Dry swab is preferred (no viral transport media) Store samples at 2-8°C.</li></ul>
Turn Around Time	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• PCR Results should be expected within 24-48 hrs of specimen receipt. Suspected Smallpox samples will be automatically forwarded to Federal CDC or a Tier 1 testing facility.</li></ul>
Unacceptable Conditions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Specimens received without a form and clinical details or with insufficient material to analyze.</li><li>• Specimens in poorly labeled or leaking containers will not be tested.</li><li>• Do not use wooden shaft or calcium alginate swabs.</li></ul>
Results	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Results will be reported to the submitter as stated on requisition via mail or fax, Maine CDC infectious disease epidemiology, Federal CDC and the FBI (if positive).</li></ul>
Laboratory Testing Fee	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• There is no fee for testing associated with Bioterrorism, Select Agents, and the Laboratory Response Network</li></ul>
Applicable CPT Codes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• N/A</li></ul>
Additional Information	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Bioterrorism Coordinator at 207-287-6736</li><li>• Bioterrorism Principal Investigator: 207-287-5769</li><li>• Sentinel Lab coordinator: 207-287-5679</li></ul>